

To ensure students entering Washington's public four-year universities and college have an appreciation for the liberal arts and are adequately prepared to succeed in college, all freshman applicants, including Running Start students, are required to complete a minimum level of preparation in six subject areas known as College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR).

Most applicants will satisfy these requirements through high school course work (*generally defined as course work completed in grades 9 – 12*). However, because these are college or university admission - not college graduation - requirements, they must be completed in high school (or via college course work) before matriculating at a Washington public four-year college or university.

These are **minimum admission requirements**; high school students are strongly encouraged to exceed them whenever possible to increase their potential for admission to and success at a baccalaureate institution. Individual baccalaureate institutions may have more rigorous standards; therefore, we recommend that prospective students consult the institution for more information.

### Minimum College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADR) for admission to Washington public baccalaureate institutions, (formerly High School Core Course Requirements)

Requirements	If taken in high school:	If made up through college course work:*
<b>English:</b>  <b>4 Credits</b>	<p>Four years of study are required, at least <u>three of which must be in college-preparatory composition or literature</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>One of the four years</u> may be satisfied by courses in drama as literature, public speaking, debate, journalistic writing, business English, or English as a Second Language (ESL).</li> <li>• Courses that are <u>not acceptable</u> include those identified as remedial or applied (e.g., acting, basic English skills, developmental reading, library, newspaper staff, remedial English, review English, vocabulary, yearbook/annual).</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: English courses are considered equivalent to ESL <i>unless</i> taken in Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, or the United States.</p> <p><i>Course work completed prior to grade 9 does <u>not</u> apply toward this college admission requirement.</i></p>	<p>College course work must be at the 100 level or higher. For the composition/literature component, generally any course with an English or Writing is prefix acceptable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>One of the four years</u> may be satisfied by a college course in speech, drama as literature, journalistic writing, business English, ESL, or engineering/technical writing.</li> <li>• Courses such as developmental or speed reading, vocabulary, or remedial English are not acceptable.</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: English courses are considered equivalent to ESL <i>unless</i> taken in Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, or the United States.</p>
<b>Mathematics:</b>  <b>3 Credits</b>	<p>Three years of study are required, <u>at least</u> at the level of first year algebra, geometry, and second-year (intermediate) algebra.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An algebra course completed in the last year of junior high school may partially satisfy the requirement <i>if the second-year algebra is completed in secondary school</i>.</li> <li>• Arithmetic, pre-algebra, business math, computer science, philosophy and statistics courses will <u>not</u> count toward the requirement.</li> </ul>	<p>If high school preparation in mathematics was insufficient, at least <i>one</i> of the following courses must be completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A course in intermediate algebra</b> – The course must be completed with a grade of 'C' (2.0) or better. This course is considered the equivalent of the third year of high school math, and does not transfer as college credit.</li> <li>• <b>Mathematics courses with intermediate algebra as a prerequisite (except philosophy and statistics courses)</b> - This includes any higher-level mathematics courses such as elementary functions, precalculus, calculus, and beyond. <i>NOTE: Courses in philosophy (e.g., logic), statistics, or computer science do NOT satisfy the mathematics requirement.</i></li> </ul>

\*Five college quarter credits or three semester credits in a college-level course is considered the equivalent of one year of high school study. If a portion of the core requirements have been completed via high school course work, the balance of the requirements may be completed via college course work. In many cases, a transferable college course may be used to satisfy both an admission core requirement *and* a graduation requirement at the baccalaureate institution.

Requirements	If taken in high school:	If made up through college course work:*
<p><b>Senior Year Quantitative Course:</b></p> <p><b>1 Credit</b></p>	<p>Minimally, this requirement <i>could</i> be satisfied by the third year math course (intermediate algebra or integrated Math III) taken in the senior year <i>when</i> the minimum math level has not been satisfied prior to the senior year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A higher level math course, e.g., pre-calculus or math analysis, if intermediate algebra or integrated math III completed prior to grade 12.</li> <li>- An algebra-based science course, e.g. chemistry or physics courses that incorporate knowledge of algebra</li> <li>- Quantitative courses such as statistics, advanced level of applied math, or math-based career &amp; technical courses</li> </ul> <p>Exception: Completion of higher level math, e.g., pre-calculus, math analysis, calculus, prior to the senior year exempts students from the senior year quantitative course requirement.</p>	<p>Comparable college courses in advanced math (pre-calculus), statistics, or algebra based science courses may apply.</p>
<p><b>Social Studies:</b></p> <p><b>3 Credits</b></p>	<p>Three years of study are required in history or in any of the social sciences, e.g., anthropology, contemporary world problems, economics, geography, government, political science, psychology, sociology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credit for religion courses, consumer economics, student government, or community service will <u>not</u> count towards the requirement.</li> </ul> <p><i>Course work completed prior to grade 9 does <u>not</u> apply toward this college admission requirement.</i></p>	<p>Courses in the social sciences - e.g. anthropology, economics, ethnic studies, history, philosophy, political science, psychology, sociology - will count toward the requirement.</p>
<p><b>Science:</b></p> <p><b>2 Credits</b></p>	<p>Two years of study are required. Applicants must complete one full year – both high school semesters in the same discipline – of the basic principles of biology, chemistry, or physics, with a laboratory experience. The principles of technology course taught in Washington state high schools may also satisfy the laboratory science requirement. The second year of science may be completed in any course that satisfies your high school's graduation requirement in science.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two years of agricultural science are equivalent to one year of science.</li> </ul> <p><i>Course work completed prior to grade 9 does not apply toward this college admission requirement.</i></p>	<p>College science courses with a lab will count toward the laboratory science portion of the requirement. Any course in astronomy, atmospheric science, biological structure, biology, botany, chemistry, environmental science (but not environmental studies), genetics, geology, oceanography, physical anthropology, physical geography, physics, or zoology will count toward the second-year requirement, as will introductory courses in biological or physical science.</p>

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Requirements	If taken in high school:	If made up through college course work:*
<b>Foreign Language:</b>  <b>2 Credits</b>	<p>Two years of study are required. The two years must be completed in the same language.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The foreign language requirement will be considered satisfied for applicants who complete their education through the seventh grade in school(s) <b>a</b>) where English was not the language of instruction and <b>b</b>) in countries other than Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the UK, and the U.S.</li> <li>International applicants who entered the U.S. education system prior to the 8th grade must satisfy the foreign language requirement.</li> </ul> <p>Any natural language that has been formally studied may be used to satisfy this requirement, including American Sign Language (AMESLAN, the language of the deaf community), and languages no longer spoken, such as Latin and ancient Greek. However, neither computer 'languages' nor forms of deaf signing aside from AMESLAN are acceptable.</p> <p>A foreign language course taken in the eighth grade may satisfy <i>one year</i> of the requirement if the second-year level course is completed in high school grades 9 - 12.</p>	<p>For purposes of admission, each quarter of language in college is considered equivalent to one year in high school. Applicants who have never studied a foreign language will need to complete <i>nine semester or ten quarter credits</i> of a single foreign language. However, an applicant who studied French for one year in high school needs to complete only the second 5 quarter credits (e.g., French 102) or the second 3 semester credits of a first-year language sequence. Of course, individuals may find it necessary to begin with 101 in order to be prepared for the second course.</p>
<b>Fine, Visual, or Performing Arts and/or College Prep Elective:</b>  <b>1 Credit</b>	<p>One year of study in the fine, visual, or performing arts <u>or</u> an additional year in any of the academic areas defined above <i>is required</i>.</p> <p>Acceptable course work in the fine, visual, or performing arts may be chosen from art appreciation, band, ceramics, choir, dance, dramatics performance and production, drawing, fiber arts, graphic arts, metal design, music appreciation, music theory, orchestra, painting, photography, print making, or sculpture.</p> <p>Courses <i>not</i> acceptable toward this requirement include architecture, color guard, creative writing, drafting, drill team, fashion design, foreign languages, interior design, sewing, speech, web design or graphics, woodworking, &amp; yearbook.</p> <p>Academic electives are courses in any of the six subject areas (defined above) <i>beyond the minimum number of years specified above</i>.</p> <p><i>Course work completed prior to grade 9 does <u>not</u> apply toward this college admission requirement.</i></p>	<p>Five quarter credits (or 4.5 semester credits) of fine, visual or performing arts or academic elective courses.</p> <p>OR, two quarter credits (2 semester credits) chosen from any of the following fine, visual, or performing arts subjects requirement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Art, art history, cinema/filmmaking, dance, music, or photography;</li> <li>Any course in drama except drama as literature courses.</li> </ul> <p>Courses in architecture are generally not acceptable, except for those in architectural history.</p> <p>AND three quarter credits (2 semester credits) of electives chosen from the six subject areas described above.</p>
<b>Total: 15 - 16</b>		

## NOTES:

- One high school credit represents 1 full year of course work on a standard semester credit calendar. To fulfill requirements, credit must be earned, not simply attempted, i.e., courses completed but failed do not satisfy CADRs.
- Course work and/or learning obtained through non-traditional or non-US high school enrollment (e.g., home school, on-line programs) may require further validation. Check with baccalaureate institutions for further guidance.

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